

The Hong Kong Daily Press

No. 6304

HONGKONG, WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 13TH, 1878.

PRICE \$2_{1/2} PER MONTH.

SHIPPING

NOTICES OF FIRMS

ARRIVALS.
February 11. G. F. MURKIN, German bark, 924, Schuhkorn, Newport, Mon., 17th Sept.
Cools—MELCHERS & Co.
February 12. THOMAS BELL, British bark, 536, Glazebrook, Hull 20th August, Coals.
—BOENKE CO.
February 12. LIVETTE, Spanish steamer, 381, J. B. Zubiaguirre, Manila 10th Feb., General—J. Y. SHAW.
February 12. MALARAK, British str., 1,204, Gould, Nagasaki 7th February, Coals.
—JARDINE, MATTHESON & Co.
February 12. YANGTZE, British str., 762, Schutzen, Canton 12th February, General—SIEMSEN & Co.
February 12. FIDELIO, German bark, 317, D. C. Bokken, Hamburg Sept., 26th General—WIELER & Co.
February 13. NOEMA, British steamer, 606, Walker, Swatow 11th, General—Kwok ACHONG.
February 12. LOMARDY, British str., 1,726, J. Orman, Bombay 22nd January, Galle 28th, Penang 3rd February, and Singapore 5th, Mails and General—P. & O. S. N. Co.
February 12. LUCRE, Siamese bark, 432, H. Klinck, Bangkok 23rd December, General—TACK-MEE.
February 12. ELASWAH, British bark, 773, S. Petrie, London 26th General—RUSSELL & Co.
February 12. SWATOW, British steamer, 390, Hutchison, from Canton, General—BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE.

CLEARANCES.

AT THE HARBOUR MASTER'S OFFICE,
FEBRUARY 12TH.
Yankee, British steamer, for Shanghai.
May Queen, British bark, for Macao.
Hornbeam, German bark, for Mantou.
G. W. Wapnere, German ship, for Saigon.

DEPARTURES.

February 12. HOLYWOOD, British str., for Haiphong.
February 13. MADARACAO, German str., for Haiphong.
February 13. TAMAR, British Ironship, for Singapore and England.
February 13. ST. JEBO, French bark, for Toulon.
February 13. AJAX, British steamer, for Shanghai.
PASSENGERS.

ARMED.
For Londo, str., from Manila.
Dr. J. W. H. Here and Mr. Adolph Hartwich and 1 Indian.
For Manila, str., from Swatow—100 Chinese.
For Lombard, str., from Bombay, &c.—FOR HONGKONG.
From Southampton—Messrs. Musket, J. Colins, S. T. Lorday, and McGregor Smith—From Bombay—M. Wingrove. From Penang—Sergeant Stewart and 2 Chinese. From Singapore—Mrs. Costa and child. Mrs. J. Wickham and 2 Chinese. F. G. Plate, and A. D. Smith, 1 Soldier, and 4 Chinese.
H. G. H. for YOKOHAMA.
From Southampton—Mrs. Hill.

REPORTS.

The British steamship Norma reports left Swatow on February, and had strong N.E. winds and thick atmosphere.

The British steamship Malabar reports left Nagasaki on 7th February. The last day fine weather, then thick fog to port.

The British steamship Lombardy reports left Bombay on 22nd February. Galle on the 25th, Penang on 3rd March, and Singapore on the 5th, and had fine weather throughout, then strong N.E. monsoon from Singapore.

The German bark G. F. Mair reports left Newport, Mon., 17th September. From the NW Coast of Australia to 3 N. through Gilho Passages and running winds, from thence to port strong N.E. monsoon.

The British bark Lure reports left Hull on 20th August. To the Gilho Passages experienced very fine weather with calm and light winds continually, first to port, then strong N.E. monsoon with thick winds.

The Siamese bark Lure reports left Bangkok on 28th December, and experienced strong N.E. monsoon down the Gulf of Siam to 3 N. lat., from thence through the Java. See variable winds and much rain. Cleared Damper's Straits on the 23rd of January. In the Pacific Ocean had N.E. monsoon in 2 N. Passed the South Cape of Formosa on the 6th of February. From Breaker Point to port had strong N.E. winds, winds and much rain.

VESSELS EXPECTED AT HONGKONG.
(Corrected to Date).

David Antwerp May 11
Chloris Cardiff May 12
Oryx Cardiff May 13
Helen Liverpool May 14
Tiger Liverpool May 15
Regal Cardiff May 16
Mona Glen Cardiff May 17
Patrie Cardiff May 18
Hotspur Antwerp May 19
Globe Deal May 20
Andreae Hamburg May 21
Castoroa Hamburg May 22
P. J. Carlton Liverpool May 23
Maria Bavaria Penrith May 24
Peter Cardiff May 25
River Lagan Cardiff May 26
Barbara London Oct. 2
Forest Belle Ardil Oct. 3
Empire Newport Oct. 4
Kaiser Ardil Oct. 5
Wager Ardil Oct. 6
Crown Ardil Oct. 7
Hamburg Hamburg Oct. 8
Anna Bertha Hamburg Oct. 9
Benedicta San Francisco Oct. 10
Lodore London Nov. 1
Elizabeth Child Hamburg Nov. 2
Johann Smith Hamburg Nov. 3
Joseph Otto Penrith Nov. 4
Jettie Penrith Nov. 5
Erene (a) Penrith Nov. 6
Mina Palmersfield Nov. 7
Nourmash London Nov. 8
Moray (a) Glasgow Nov. 9
Glenarbor Fletching Nov. 10
Devon London Nov. 11
Sir Harry Parkes Cardiff Nov. 12
Kwangtung (a) Aberdeen Nov. 13
Glenarbor (a) London Nov. 14
Newchwang (a) Greenwich Nov. 15
AUCTION SALES TO-DAY.

None.

PIENTAL HOTEL
W. L. T. CO., HONGKONG,
STOCKHAUSEN AND ROSE,
PROPRIETORS.
Tiffin at One. Dinner at Seven.
Wine, Spirits, &c., of the Best Quality only.
English, French, and German Speaks.

BILLIARD ROOMS—BOWLING ALLEYS

NOTICES

NOTICE.
I HAVE This Day established myself at this Port as a GENERAL COMMISSION AGENT.
J. Y. VERNON SHAW.

February 12. THOMAS BELL, British bark, 536, Glazebrook, Hull 20th August, Coals.
—BOENKE CO.

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NOTICE.

MR. H. F. MEYERSON has been admitted

as a PARTNER in our Firm from this

MEYERSON & CO.

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NOTICE.

NOW READY FOR SALE.

THE CHRONICLE AND DIRECTORY
For 1878.
(With which is incorporated "THE CHINA
 DIRECTORY.")

This Comprehensive Work, now in the
SIXTEENTH YEAR of its existence, has been
compiled from the Best and Most Reliable
Sources, and no pains have been spared to
render it Complete in Every Respect.
It contains—

THE DIRECTORY FOR HONGKONG.
THE DIRECTORY FOR CANTON.

THE DIRECTORY FOR WHAMPOA.

THE DIRECTORY FOR MACAO.

THE DIRECTORY FOR PAKHOI.

THE DIRECTORY FOR HOIHOW.

THE DIRECTORY FOR SWATOW.

THE DIRECTORY FOR AMOY.

THE DIRECTORY FOR FORMOSA.

THE DIRECTORY FOR POOCHOW.

THE DIRECTORY FOR WENCHOW.

THE DIRECTORY FOR NINGPO.

THE DIRECTORY FOR SHANGHAI.

THE DIRECTORY FOR CHINKIANG.

THE DIRECTORY FOR KIUKIANG.

THE DIRECTORY FOR WUCHU.

THE DIRECTORY FOR HANKOW.

THE DIRECTORY FOR CHEFOO.

THE DIRECTORY FOR TAKU.

THE DIRECTORY FOR TIENSIN.

THE DIRECTORY FOR NEWCHUANG.

THE DIRECTORY FOR PEKING.

THE DIRECTORY FOR TOKIO.

THE DIRECTORY FOR YOKOHAMA.

THE DIRECTORY FOR NIIGATA.

THE DIRECTORY FOR NAGASAKI.

THE DIRECTORY FOR HIIGO.

THE DIRECTORY FOR HAKODATE.

THE DIRECTORY FOR PHILIPPINES.

THE DIRECTORY FOR SAIGON.

THE DIRECTORY FOR HAIPHONG.

THE DIRECTORY FOR HANOI.

THE DIRECTORY FOR BANGKOK.

THE DIRECTORY FOR SINGAPORE.

With brief descriptions of Hongkong and the
Treaty Ports of China, Japan, and the Philippines.

It also includes a mass of useful information
in addition to that usually found in works of
kind.

The larger Directory contains the different
Treaties and Conventions made by China and
Japan with foreign countries, together with
various Acts, Ordinances, and Regulations re-
lating to Commerce and Shipping.

It is further embellished with a Chromo-litho-
graph of a

PLAN OF VICTORIA, HONGKONG;

THE
FOREIGN SETTLEMENTS OF
SHANGHAI;

A Chromo-lithograph Plate of the NEW
CODE OF SIGNALS in use at the
PEAK;

Also of the various HOUSE FLAGS
(Designed expressly for the Work);

and
MAPS OF HONGKONG, JAPAN &c.

The Directory for 1878 contains several new
features and improvements, and will be found
as complete as possible.

The Chronicle and Directory is the only
publication of its kind for China and Japan,
and it will be found invaluable in all Public
and Commercial Offices.

It is published in two forms—Complete at
\$3.00, with the Lists of Residents, Port Direc-
tors, Maps, &c., at \$3.

Orders for Copies may be sent to the **DAILY
PRESS** Office, where it is published, or to the
following Agents:

MACAO Mr. L. A. de Graze
SHATOW Messrs. Campbell & Co.
AMOY Messrs. Wilson, Nichols & Co.
FORMOSA Messrs. Wilson, Nichols & Co.
FOOCHOW Messrs. Hedges & Co.
NINGPO Messrs. Hall & Walsh, Shihai
SHANGHAI Messrs. Hall & Walsh,
LANKHAI and MOKSHA Messrs. Hall & Walsh,
KOLY-
RIVER PORTS Messrs. Hall & Walsh, Shanghai
CHIPOO Messrs. Hall & Walsh, KOLY-
NEWCHUANG Messrs. Hall & Walsh, Shanghai
TIENSIN and MOKSHA Messrs. Hall & Walsh, KOLY-
PEKING Messrs. Hall & Walsh, Shanghai
NAGASAKI The C. and J. Trading Co.
HOKKO, OSAKA, Tha G. and J. Trading Co.
YOKOHAMA Japan Gazette Office
MELBOURNE Messrs. Nagoya & Co.
SAIGON Mr. J. E. Blane
SINGAPORE Messrs. Liddelow and Martin
BANGKOK Messrs. Malinche, Jullier & Co.
LONDON Mr. F. Alcan, Clement's Lane,
LONDON Mr. G. Goo, Street, 30, Cornhill
LONDON Messrs. Butcher, Henry & Co.
SAN FRANCISCO Mr. L. P. Fisher, 21, Merchants
Exchange.
NEW YORK Messrs. S. M. Pettigill & Co.,
37, Park Row.

NOTICE:
PRINTING OF EVERY DESCRIPTION
AT ONE.

DAILY PRESS' OFFICE.
Particular attention is given at this Establish-
ment to COMMERCIAL and GENERAL JOB
PRINTING, every description of which is
executed.

IN THE BEST STYLE.

SUCH PRICES
as will bear.

FAVOURABLE COMPARISON
with
"ANY IN THE EAST."

DAILY PRESS' OFFICE,
HONGKONG.

CHINA OVERLAND TRADE REPORT,
COMMERCIAL JOURNAL for CHINA, JAPAN,
etc., etc.,
Published by the Office of the **Hongkong Daily
Press** on the Morning of the Departure
of the English Mail.

contains the

**LATEST AND FULLEST TRADE
INTELLIGENCE,**
REPORTS OF MEETINGS OF
COMPANIES.

THE LATEST TELEGRAMS
together with the

POLITICAL AND GENERAL NEWS

of the Foreign Powers.

The "Trade Report" has a large circulation
in Hongkong, the Ports of China and Japan
and the Philippines, Straits Settlements, &c., &c.

Hongkong, 1st October, 1877.

NOTICE.

THE Undersigned, having become LIEUTENANT
of the "HONGKONG DAILY PRESS" and
the business connected therewith, will conduct
the same on his own account henceforth.

R. CHATTERTON WILCOX,
Duty Press Officer,
Hongkong, 1st January, 1878.

NOTICE.

S. WATSON AND CO.,
A. FAMILY AND DISPENSING
CHEMISTS.

**PHARMACEUTICAL,
PATENT MEDICINE VENDORS,
DRUGGISTS' SYNDICATE,**
And
AERATED WATER MAKERS.

**SHIPS' MEDICINE CHESTS REFITTED,
PASSENGER SHIPS SUPPLIED.**

NOTICE. To avoid delay in the execution of
Orders, it is particularly requested that all
business communications be addressed to the
Firm of **A. S. WATSON AND CO.** or

HONGKONG DISPENSARY. [17]

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS. Communications on Editorial matters should be addressed to "The Editor," and those on business "The Manager," and not to individuals by name.

Correspondents are requested to forward their name and address with communications addressed to the Editor, not for publication, but as evidence of good faith.

We are requested to state that the "Manager" to be held at Mrs. Eliza Sharp's residence in Amoy, is the wife of the Rev. Mr. Sharp, a missionary in Amoy.

All letters for publication should be written on one side of the paper only.

The Daily Press.

HONGKONG, FEBRUARY 15th, 1878.

The Central School is once more called upon to justify its *raison d'être*. It has this time been attacked openly and not behind the shield of a *non de plume*. Mr. J. J. Francis, who has manifested a great interest in education, or rather Roman Catholic education, very naturally came to the front at St. Joseph's College on Saturday. With his felicitations of the directors upon the success attained by the school we have no disposition to quarrel. The College has undoubtedly made great and solid progress, while the large number of pupils may be taken as a pretty good proof that the instruction imparted is of a satisfactory character. But when he proceeds to draw unfair comparisons between St. Joseph's College and the Central School we are compelled to join issue with him. His statement that only forty or fifty of the Central School were able to speak English is erroneous and conveys a more erroneous impression than would at first sight appear. The teaching of the English language to the youth (both Chinese and Portuguese) of the Colony is unquestionably a very important matter, and it is to be hoped that the fact will never be lost sight of by those who have the training of the children here in their hands. Mr. Stewart, in reply to His Excellency the GOVERNOR at the recent presentation of prizes at the Central School, said the number of boys who could speak English was from fifty to sixty, and they imperfectly. Now it is generally known that the study of the English language is enforced at the Central School on every pupil and that, too, for several hours a day. Obviously, therefore, what the Head Master meant to convey to Mr. Henniker was that fifty or sixty of the boys spoke the language fairly well; it is simply impossible he could have intended it to be understood that that number had no acquaintance with it. It is not likely that of the hundreds of boys in the school less than one-eighth know any English. The boys remain at the institution for such short periods, unfortunately, that it is quite conceivable, and not at all surprising, that only some fifty of their number should be able to converse readily in the English language. But it is altogether improbable that that proportion should have even knowledge of it "more or less." As a correspondent, writing on the subject, put it, it is only a question of degree, and there can be no doubt in the mind of any person who has seen anything of the working of the Central School, that it turns out a large number of boys who are able to speak sufficient English to engage in business. If a comparison is to be made between St. Joseph's College and the Central School as to the knowledge of English imparted in those establishments, it would be necessary to take into account the fact, conjointly with the unusual extent of the school, that it is surprising that there was not more crowded. That it would have been so is due to the fact that the school is conducted on the lines of a primary school.

On Monday night the amateur performance of Mr. Tom Taylor's comedy "Still waters run deep" was repeated at the Theatre Royal, City Hall, before a fair house. The piece was played on the 22nd December. The British bark "Whitehead" was in port on the 23rd December.

A Rector's telegram dated St. Petersburg, December 29th, says that official intelligence received there announces the success of the Chinese troops in Kashgar. They had fought Tschitang and Aksu, two strong fortified points. The inhabitants were flying in terror.

The usual fortnightly entertainment at the Temperance Hall took place on Monday night, when the chaff was taken by Mr. D. R. Crawford. Notwithstanding that two performances were given at other places at the same time the attendance was good, and the programme gave great pleasure to the audience.

On Monday night the "Merry Makers" gave a performance at the Liverpool Theatre. The attendance was not large, which was perhaps accounted for by being the same evening amateur dramatic performance at the City Hall and another entertainment at the Temperance Hall. The performance was very successful and concluded with a laughable sketch entitled "The Baby Elephant."

The German barque *J. F. Mentz*, Captain Schuhmacher, was recently spoken the Andaman Islands, North from Cambay to this port, 141 days out. British bark showing a signal *QWLN* 113 days out, for this port, and the German bark *Andreas*, from Hamburg to Hongkong 122 days out, from Sandspit Island on the 2nd January; the British bark *E. C. Maurice* to Manila 120 days out, on the same day; and the *St. John* spoke a British bark showing *QFCF* from Cardiff to Hongkong, 141 days out.

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We understand that the Chinese Legation in Paris, which was intended to be established shortly after the opening of the Chinese Legation at Berlin, has been augmented by the arrival of five officials. One of these, two have been received in the German legation at Paris, and the other three are to be received in the Chinese legation at Berlin.

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The Chinese Legation at

TO BE LET

INSURANCE

VESSELS ADVERTISED AS LOADING

VESSELS ON THE BERTH

POST-OFFICE NOTIFICATIONS

TO LET.
No. 3, WEST TERRACE. Possession on the 1st of March.
Apply to **ALGAR**, 9, Hollywood Road, Hongkong, 1st February, 1878.

TO LET.
A FIRST-CLASS GRANITE GODOWN on the Prahs, Wanchi.
Apply to **OLYPHANT & Co.**, Hongkong, 1st March, 1878.

TO LET.
No. 9, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL, with Gullane attached.
No. 2, PEDDAR'S HILL.

TO LET.
No. 2, SEVEN-GATE TERRACE.
Apply to **DAVID SASSOON SONS & Co.**, Hongkong, 1st February, 1878.

TO LET.
SMALL GODOWN in DUNDRELL STREET.
Apply to **KYLE AND RAIN,** 10, House, Hongkong, 8th February, 1878.

TO LET.
THE DWELLING HOUSE & OFFICES, No. 1, D'AGUILAR STREET, lately in the occupation of Messrs. DOUGLAS LAPRAIK & Co.

THREE OFFICES, Circus Chambers, The BUNGALOW, No. 1, OLD HAIL STREET.
Apply to **DOUGLAS LAPRAIK & Co.**, Hongkong, 27th March, 1878.

TO LET.
THE DWELLING-HOUSE AT WEST POINT, known as "Shihler House," in the occupation of HERRICK & CO., Esq., etc.

TO LET.
THE THREE LARGE HOUSES (recently thoroughly repaired), known as FLETCHER'S BUILDINGS, adjoining the Central Department. They may be occupied as either Dwellings or in Office, and are well suitable for a Mess of Business Establishment.

TO LET.
SPACIOUS GRANITE AND COAL GO-DOWNS, connected with the above, fronting the Harbour and Queen's Road.
Apply to **SHARPE, TOLLEE, AND JOHNSON,** Solicitors, Supreme Court House, Hongkong, 11th January, 1878.

TO LET.
GROUND FLOOR of No. 50, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL, No. 7, Queen's Road Central, Hongkong, 16th January, 1878.

INSURANCES.
THE EQUITABLE LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY OF THE UNITED STATES.

TO LET.
THE SCOTTISH IMPERIAL INSURANCE COMPANY.

TO LET.
THE Underwritten, having been appointed Agents in Hongkong for the above-named Company, is prepared to offer **DISCOUNTS** at GREATLY REDUCED RATES and upon Terms very favourable to the Assured.

For full information and Particulars, apply to **OLYPHANT & Co.**, Agents, Hongkong, 21st January, 1878.

POSITIVE GOVERNMENT SECURITY LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.
HEAD OFFICE—34, CANNON STREET, LONDON.
INDIAN OFFICE—6, OLD COURT HOUSE STREET, CALCUTTA.

PARTICULARS OF ASSETS HELD FOR POSITIVE ASSURANCES BY TRUSTEES, IN THEIR OWN NAMES, IN SPECIAL TRUST, FOR THE PAYMENT OF CLAIMS.
To the 3rd Quarter ended 30th September, 1877.

CENTRAL LIFE FUND. Sir R. Connel, Master, Hughes and Macandrew (Trustees), Received 3 per cent. Annually, £37,032 15s. 11d.

BENGAL LIFE FUND. Official Trustee, Bengal Government Paper, £27,376 0s. 0d. Cash, held by Trustees, in course of Investment, £130 15s. 4d.

MADRAS LIFE FUND. Official Trustee, Madras Government Paper, £16,860 0s. 0d. Cash, 101 1/2% Trustees, in course of Investment, £105 10s. 4d.

BOMBAY LIFE FUND. Official Trustee, Bombay Government Paper, £27,100 0s. 0d. Cash, held by Trustees, in course of Investment, £151 15s. 4d.

Total Life Fund Securities purchased with Policyholders' Premiums, £113,851 0s. 7d. GUARANTEE FUND, Sir R. Connel, Master, Hughes and Macandrew (Trustees), Received 3 per cent. Annually, £37,032 15s. 11d.

CHINESE INSURANCE COMPANY (LIMITED). GILMAN & Co., Agents, Hongkong, 7th July, 1878.

NOTICE.
POLICIES granted at current rates on Mortal Risks to all parts of the World. In accordance with the Company's Articles of Association, the third of the Premiums is deducted annually to Contribution, whether Shareholders or not, in proportion to the net amount of Premium contributed by each, the remaining third being carried to Reserve Fund.

OLYPHANT & Co., Agents, Hongkong, 21st January, 1878.

YANGTZE INSURANCE ASSOCIATION.
CAPITAL (Fully Paid up) Tls. 420,000
PERMANENT RESERVE Tls. 230,000
SPECIAL RESERVE FUND Tls. 75,000
TOTAL CAPITAL and Accumulations this date Tls. 725,000

DIRECTORS: F. B. FORBES, Esq., Chairman; M. W. HOYD, Esq.; C. KERS, Esq.; M. P. EVANS, Esq.; C. LUCAS, Esq.

SECRETARIAL: Messrs. RUSSELL & Co., Shanghai, LONDON BANKERS.

AGENCIES IN: HONGKONG, LONDON, SAN FRANCISCO, and the Principal Ports in the East.

POLICIES granted on Marine Risks to all parts of the World, at current rates. Subject to a charge of 12 1/2% for Interest on Shareholders' Capital, and all the Profits of the Underwriting Business will be annually distributed among all Contributors in proportion to the premium paid by them.

RUSSELL & Co., Agents, Hongkong, 1st October, 1877.

THE ON-TIME INSURANCE COMPANY (LIMITED). CAPITAL Tls. 400,000, EQUAL TO 855,555 55.

DIRECTORS: LEE SING, of the Lai Hing Firm; CHAN SHUNG LAI, of the Chan Cheong Wing Hong; WONG YIN PUN, of the Chung Cheong Wing Hong; CHAN YUEN, of the Yau On Firm; Loo SENG YUEN, of the Lung Seng Wo Hong; WONG PAI CHEONG, of the San Tsoi Lee Hong; Pung PONG, of the Wai Ying Firm.

MANAGER—HO AMEI, Agent, Hongkong, 1st October, 1877.

THE LONDON ASSURANCE COMPANY. INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER OF HIS MAJESTY KING GEORGE THE FIRST, A.D. 1720.

THE Underwritten, having been appointed Agents for the above Company at Hongkong, Canton, Foochow, Shanghai, and Hankow, and are prepared to grant Insurances at Current rates, and the best terms.

HOLLIDAY, WISE & Co. MANCHESTER FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY OF MANCHESTER AND LONDON.

THE Underwritten have been appointed Agents for the above Company at Hongkong, Canton, Foochow, Shanghai, and Hankow, and are prepared to grant Insurances at Current rates, and the best terms.

MARINE DEPARTMENT. Policies on First-class Buildings to an extent of £20,000.

FLAME DEPARTMENT. Policies issued for long or short periods at a discount of 30% allowed.

LIFE DEPARTMENT. Policies issued for sums not exceeding £25,000 at reduced rates.

HOLLIDAY, WISE & Co. Agents, Hongkong, 20th July, 1878.

PHOENIX FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY. THE Undersigned, having been appointed Agents for the above Company, are prepared to grant Policies on Buildings, Fire to the extent of £40,000, or Buildings and Goods stored therein.

DOUGLAS LAPRAIK & Co. Hongkong, 9th November, 1878.

PHOENIX FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY. FROM this date, until further notice, a discount of Twenty per cent. (20%) upon the Current Local Rates of Premium will be allowed upon Insurances effected by the Undersigned.

DOUGLAS LAPRAIK & Co. Agents, Hongkong, 27th June, 1878.

TRANSATLANTIC FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY OF HAMBURG. THE Undersigned, having been appointed Agents for the above Company, are prepared to accept Risk of Fire at Current Rates, except on a Building.

DOUGLAS LAPRAIK & Co. Agents, Hongkong, 1st February, 1878.

TO LET. NO. 9, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL, with Gullane attached.

NO. 2, PEDDAR'S HILL. Apply to **OLYPHANT & Co.**, Hongkong, 1st February, 1878.

TO LET. NO. 2, SEVEN-GATE TERRACE.

TO LET. NO. 1, D'AGUILAR STREET, lately in the occupation of Messrs. DOUGLAS LAPRAIK & Co.

THREE OFFICES, Circus Chambers, The BUNGALOW, No. 1, OLD HAIL STREET.

TO LET. SMALL GODOWN in DUNDRELL STREET.

TO LET. KYLE AND RAIN, 10, House, Hongkong, 8th February, 1878.

TO LET. THE DWELLING-HOUSE & OFFICES, No. 1, D'AGUILAR STREET, lately in the occupation of Messrs. DOUGLAS LAPRAIK & Co.

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EXTRACTS.

IN VAIN.

It's not that I'm a rich man,
Nor yet a bad one in the main;
I seem to live honest a man
That makes my strongest efforts vain.

I'm fond of sport, but when I try
To make the rabid fancies
My planes are made conspicuous by
The constant absence of success.

In search of snips I hunt the bog,
Or seek the pastures on the plain;

But if I do not kill a dog,
My enterprises are spent in vain.

I've walked miles all night,
And valiantly plied the rod and line;
But even if a fish did bite,
It always took its hook with mine.

I send these lines, and I believe
I shall be asked to try again;

And also that I shall receive

A little cheque. [The Ed. : "in vain"]

EFFECTS OF PUBLIC EDUCATION IN IRELAND.

It is nothing less than a revolution that the humble little thatched-roofed national school—or let me more accurately say the national school supplemented by cheap popular literature—has effected in Ireland. Political leadership, in the sense in which it prevailed in our fathers' time, is gone for ever—would be simply impossible now. And with the old-time leadership of one magnificent genius or one well-trusted class, there have also disappeared many of the old-time modes and habits of political life and action. It is utterly astonishing how few persons seem to realize or to have noticed these changes, so palpable though so silently wrought under their very eyes during the last thirty years. Every day we hear some one whose memory dwells ardently on the period of reform or emancipation or repeal, telling us what should be done now, and how done, because it was done, and so done then. As well might he tell us of the times of Brian Boru. But it is better or be it for worse, a new Ireland has arisen since then.—"New Ireland," by A. M. Sullivan.

THE EAR OF DIONYSIUS.

The famous "Ear of Dionysius" has often been unmasked by travellers; but Mr. Edward Postlethwaite, in his "Letters from Greece," has added some curious details. He describes the "ear" as a large black opening in a rock, in the form of the ear of ass, and fifty feet in height. It led into a cavern sixty or seventy yards long, by five or six wide, cut by a chiselling in the solid rock, the sides standing towards each other as they rose, tall at the top, they terminated in a mere rib, or riband, which indicated the winding of the den. This was in imitation of the *meatus* or *anthonia*, as the entrance of the *meatus* itself was formed to catch sound and adduced to religious observances. He is not sure what was done, but the ear was, in fact, in close proximity to the palace of the tyrant Dionysius, of Syracuse, and from his palace was a passage to the ear of the cavern; In this he shut up his suspected or disaffected subjects, and when it pleased his fancy he repaired through the passage to that part of the cavern, it is presumed, where the donkey's brain would be; and there, in his ear to the ground, he listened to the conversations, or soliloquies, or ejaculations, or even signs, of his ill-treated prisoners. But how could he hear the latter at sixty or eighty feet off? The donkey will tell you as soon as asked, Mr. Postlethwaite's guide went to a certain part of the ear, and in a low, civil tone addressed some words of reproach to the eavesdropping tyrant overhead; and Mr. Postlethwaite was astonished at hearing his speech strike against the roof almost like a bell from a tower; louder, indeed, it seemed than when it passed his lips.—The World of Wonders.

AN ANACHRONISM IN GADILIC.

Should anyone desire to see what mischief is effected by adherence to a language long since out of date, he should visit some parts of the Highlands and the Western Highlands of Scotland, where, by a well-meant but mistaken policy, Gaelic is still perseveringly maintained. Some years since it was our fortune to pay a visit to Barra, one of the Outer Hebrides; and the feeling which rose in our mind was that what we beheld was a specimen of Scotland as it existed in the sixth century, when St. Columba spread a knowledge of Christianity in the western Caledonian region. We seemed to step back twelve hundred years. It was a marvellous kind of logic in antiquity. In their language, in their rude dwellings of stone and turf, in their religious forms, and in their dress, these people belonged to a far-back age. Their existence was an anachronism. And the curious thing was to find this condition of affairs within four-and-twenty hours of Glasgow, with its enterprise and prodigiously busy population. Speaking Gaelic and nothing else, they, in their dismay and isolation, are left behind in all ordinary means of advancement. That language is their bane, it keeps them poor, it keeps them ignorant. So far as they are concerned, the art of printing as well never have been invented. The intelligence communicated by books and newspapers is for them wholly unavailable. Practically they are living hundreds of years before the ingenious discoveries of Gutenberg and Caster. To think that with all the costly apparatus of national education such should be going on within the compass of the British Islands!—Chambers' Journal.

BERMONSEY ABBEY.

The earliest mention of this abbey occurs in the account of Bermonsey in "Domesday," from which may be gathered some idea of the solitude and seclusion which the place then enjoyed when it is stated that there was "woodland" round about for the "pomage" of a certain number of hogs; and that there was also "a new and fair church with twenty acres of meadow." Soon after the Norman conquest, a number of Cluniac monks settled in this country; and in 1082 a wealthy citizen of London, Aylwin Childs, founded a monastery at Bermonsey, which some of the ecclesiastics from the Monastery of La Charite, on the Loire, made their new home in the land of their adoption. The Cluniacs derived their name from the church of St. Peter in Cluny, where Odo, an abbot of the tenth century, reformed the Benedictine rule. Their habit was the same as the Benedictine. The order was introduced into England in 1072, when a Cluniac house was established at Lewes, in Sussex, under the protection of Earl Warenne, the Conqueror's son-in-law. In the twelfth century the Abbey of Cluny was at the height of its reputation under Peter the Venerable (1122-1154). From the 13th September till Lent, the Cluniacs had one meal only a day, except during the octaves of Christmas and the Epiphany, when they had an extra meal. Still eighteen poor men fed at their table. There were never more than twenty Cluniac houses in England, nearly all of them founded before the reign of Henry II. Until the fourteenth century, all the Cluniac houses were priories dependent on the parent house. The Prior of St. Pancras, Lewes, was the high-chamberlain, and frequently the vicar-general of the Abbey of Cluny, and exercised the functions of a Provincial in England. The English houses were all governed by laymen, and the monks were often of the lowest class of English extraction. In the fourteenth century, however, there was a change and Bermonsey was made an abbey.

GLOUCESTER NEW LONDON.

THE RUSSIANS OF TO-DAY.

The chief strength of the Russian Government lies in its having no Parliament to control its expenditure. It can bestow immense sums on secret service, and buy up Asiatic chief as that it will then. Since the demise of the East India Company, Great Britain has laboured under a decided disadvantage in this respect. Its Government no longer bribes, and must depend for its peace in the East or military might only. Now the strength of the Indian Martians did beyond doubt cover British arms with a glory which made every Rajah and Khan, from Astrakan to Ceylon, link with a whole respect, and the subsequent Abyssinians campaign did much to confirm the notion that when Eastern potentates come to blows with the British Government, do so somehow get terribly the worst of it. There is not a chief in Turkistan but knows how Duleh did and how Magdal was stoned; and when the British name is mentioned in the bazaar of Tashkend and Samarcand the fierce valour of the "red soldiers" is recalled too in cautious terms. But Russia also has its military fame; and when gold is used to buy them, when chiefs are bought and bumbo Asias dazzled, oppressed, and beaten with a fable as to British decadence, it becomes a question with them whether after all Russia is not the stronger of the two Powers. She is not why does England allow her to extend her domination over, when who were not unfriendly to British rule? Why is she suffered to bully Persia and spoil Turkey? Why does every Russian tribe of the coming time when the standard of the Czar shall float over Calcutta? These are questions which cannot be satisfactorily answered for the understanding of a Bolkhov or Kharvan. The sky riders and warriors of Turkistan know what Russia is doing, within India as well as without, by fomenting dissatisfaction among native princes, and it seems to them that the proper time for withstand so dangerous an enemy is the time when she is still struggling towards the boundary line—not when she shall be actually on the frontier with huge hosts communications assured, and allies inside the country, whose mutiny must cause the final struggle for supremacy to assume gigantic proportions. Add to all this that the Russians, while behaving cruelly and insolently towards the masses in their subject provinces, know how to make themselves popular with men of influence by a display of qualities and vices more congenial to the Asiatic, and than the formalism of the English. British policy in the East tends to protect the people against the improprieties of their native rulers; the policy of Russia is just the reverse, for it gives them to the chiefs the power of the kourkatch, and slashes the faces of the friends pretty vigorously, but the bridegroom gets off cheap, and, after a sham struggle, bears back the young lady on his saddle amid the triumphant shouts of his village. The Khriz live in poor huts, made of felt, like tents, and take great pride in having their horses richly caparisoned, their bridles being often encrusted with jewels. They are also very particular about their own dress, which consists of leather trousers, a black velvet dressing-gown, more or less braided with gold, and a conical felt hat with curly brim. When a Khriz can win the red velvet given by the Russians he is mighty proud of it, though his loyalty to the bestowers has to be kept alive by continual gifts. As the Russians cannot be giving, they prefer to persecute all but the more influential Khriz, and their cupidity finds free scope among those whose bridles already mentioned. It is through the Khriz that political rumours are disseminated in Turkistan, for they have a standard of their own, and are as inferior in private as they are in public, as any tribe; and, as they are often encrusted with jewels, they are also very particular about their own dress, which consists of leather trousers, a black velvet dressing-gown, more or less braided with gold, and a conical felt hat with curly brim. When a Khriz can win the red velvet given by the Russians he is mighty proud of it, though his loyalty to the bestowers has to be kept alive by continual gifts. As the Russians cannot be giving, they prefer to persecute all but the more influential Khriz, and their cupidity finds free scope among those whose bridles already mentioned. 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